

Whereas the United States Government Accountability Office report in 2005 highlighted the lack of resources and staffing available to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for processing an increasing backlog of veterans' claims; and

Whereas discretionary funding for the United States Department of Veterans Affairs lags behind both medical inflation and the increased demands for services; for example, the enrollment for veterans' health care increased 134 percent between fiscal years 1996 and 2004, but funding only increased 34 percent during the same period when adjusted to 1996 dollars; and

Whereas former United States Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony Principi has publicly stated that the United States Department of Veterans Affairs has been struggling to provide health care to the rapidly rising number of veterans who require health care; be it

Resolved, That the Alaska State Legislature expresses its profound gratitude for the sacrifices made by veterans who suffer from medical or mental problems resulting from injuries that occurred while serving in the United States Armed Forces; and be it further

Resolved, That the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States Congress to ensure adequate funding for veterans' health care.

POM-476. A resolution adopted by the California State Lands Commission supporting the Ocean Conservation, Education, and National Strategy for the 21st Century Act (H.R. 21) and the National Oceans Protection Act of 2008 (S. 3314); to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

POM-477. A resolution adopted by the California State Lands Commission requesting that Congress continue to enact, and the President reinstitute, the moratorium on oil and gas leasing within protected offshore areas; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-478. A resolution adopted by the legislature of the Republic of the Philippines thanking the U.S. Senate for the passage of S. 1315 known as the Veterans' Benefits Enhancement Act of 2007; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment with a preamble:

S. Res. 707. An original resolution authorizing the President of the Senate to certify the facts of the failure of Joshua Bolten, as the Custodian of Records at the White House, to appear before the Committee on the Judiciary and produce documents as required by Committee subpoena (Rept. No. 110-522).

S. Res. 708. An original resolution authorizing the President of the Senate to certify the facts of the failure of Karl Rove to appear and testify before the Committee on the Judiciary and to produce documents as required by Committee subpoena (Rept. No. 110-522).

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 967, a bill to amend chapter 41 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for the establishment and authorization of funding for certain training programs for supervisors of Federal employees (Rept. No. 110-523).

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Special Report entitled "Activities of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs" (Rept. No. 110-524).

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 3477, a bill to amend title 44, United States Code, to authorize grants for Presidential Centers of Historical Excellence (Rept. No. 110-525).

Report to accompany S. 1000, a bill to enhance the Federal Telework Program (Rept. No. 110-526).

By Mr. KENNEDY, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1695. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a pathway for the licensure of biosimilar biological products, to promote innovation in the life sciences, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 3691. A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to require reporting and record-keeping for positions involving credit-default swaps, to grant the Federal Reserve Board authority over investment-bank holding companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 3692. A bill to rescind Treasury Notice 2008-83; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mrs.

LINCOLN, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 3693. A bill to limit the amount of compensation for employees and executives of financial institutions assisted under the Troubled Asset Relief Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, and Mrs. LINCOLN):

S. 3694. A bill to amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act to limit obligations to \$350,000,000,000, absent majority approval by the Congress; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ENSIGN:

S. 3695. A bill to require a 50-hour workweek for Federal prison inmates, to reform inmate work programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. STEVENS (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 3696. A bill to establish a grant program to encourage retooling of entities in the timber industry in Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 3697. A bill to amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act to require approval by the Congress for certain expenditures for the Troubled Asset Relief Program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 3698. A bill to prohibit any recipient of emergency Federal economic assistance from using such funds for lobbying expenditures or political contributions, to improve transparency, enhance accountability, encourage responsible corporate governance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 3699. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to reform and improve the HUBZone program for

small business concerns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BROWN, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DODD, Mr. CASEY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 3700. A bill to encourage and support the development of high-speed passenger rail transportation in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 3701. A bill to provide assistance to Best Buddies to support the expansion and development of mentoring programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 3702. A bill to provide for full and open competition for Federal contracts related to natural disaster reconstruction efforts; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 3703. A bill to ensure efficiency and fairness in the awarding of Federal contracts in connection with natural disaster reconstruction efforts; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 3704. A bill to authorize additional Federal Bureau of Investigation field agents to investigate financial crimes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 3705. A bill to amend the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to stop the small business credit crunch, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. CLINTON:

S. 3706. A bill to amend part D of title IV of the Social Security Act to prohibit States from charging child support recipients for the collection of child support; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. CLINTON:

S. 3707. A bill to recruit, train, and support principals for high-need schools who are effective in improving student academic achievement; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. CLINTON:

S. 3708. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to health professions education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. Res. 707. An original resolution authorizing the President of the Senate to certify the facts of the failure of Joshua Bolten, as the Custodian of Records at the White House, to appear before the Committee on the Judiciary and produce documents as required by Committee subpoena; from the Committee on the Judiciary; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. Res. 708. An original resolution authorizing the President of the Senate to certify